

## **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 7**

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### **DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Commission on Mental Health and Addiction to examine the issue of involuntary commitment of persons with substance use disorders.

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## **SIMPSON**

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January 10, 2012, read first time and referred to Committee on Health and Provider Services

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## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 7

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Commission on Mental Health and Addiction to examine the issue of involuntary commitment of persons with substance use disorders.

*Whereas, In 2008, the costs to corrections and the judiciary associated with substance use in Indiana were estimated to be \$1.3 billion and the healthcare costs associated with substance use in Indiana were estimated to be \$4.8 billion;*

*Whereas, In 2008, Indiana spent only \$70 million to reduce substance use, including, prevention, intervention and research;*

*Whereas, Cost-benefit analyses of treatment programs show that every \$1 spent on treatment results in an average of \$7 saved in benefits. These benefits include increased employment, fewer medical expenses, and decreased crime and its related expenses;*

*Whereas, Over 80% of states' corrections budgets are spent on adults who use substances;*

*Whereas, Community-based treatment is significantly less expensive than incarceration. Calculations from other states estimate an annual savings of nearly \$20,000 per inmate;*



*Whereas, In 2010, approximately twenty-four thousand (24,000) Hoosiers were admitted to a substance abuse treatment program;*

*Whereas, Indiana code 12-23-11-1 provides that an individual who is an alcoholic, incapacitated by alcohol, or a drug abuser may be involuntarily committed to the care of the division for treatment;*

*Whereas, Many Hoosiers with substance use disorders are not aware of substance abuse treatment facility options, nor are their friends and family members;*

*Whereas, Further study is necessary to determine the reasons why more Hoosiers do not take advantage of treatment options including involuntary commitment: Therefore,*

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:*

SECTION 1. The Commission on Mental Health and Addiction will examine the issue of involuntary commitment of persons with substance use disorders.

SECTION 2. (a) The Commission will examine whether:

- (1) the involuntary commitment statute is underutilized,
- (2) the state should inform the public, law enforcement, and the judiciary of the current Indiana laws on involuntary commitment, and
- (3) the state has adequate resources to provide treatment for persons with substance use disorders.

(b) The Commission shall make recommendations in accordance with this section.

